

HAPPENINGS IN THE RANKS OF THE WOMEN'S CLUBS



MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BIENNIAL BOARD OF THE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

First row, from left to right: Mrs. Walter S. Conly, Mrs. Albert Canfield Page, Mrs. Thomas Slack, Mrs. John H. Griesel, Mrs. North MacLean.

Second row: Mrs. Eugene J. Grant, Mrs. Philip Carpenter, Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, Mrs. William Grant Brown, Mrs. Belle de Rivera, Mrs. Mary Garrett Hay, Miss Florence Guernsey.

Standing: Mrs. Ralph Trautmann, Mrs. Thomas J. Vivian, Mrs. Edward Balbach, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, Mrs. Cornelius J. Zabriske, Mrs. John Francis Yauger, Mrs. William Einstein.

(Photo by E. F. Foley Co.)

The National California Club, in New York, Mrs. Thomas Vivian, president, continued its annual luncheon with an outing trip to Brighton Beach, on Tuesday, May 18. Mrs. Eugene J. Grant, Mrs. John Fowler Trow, Miss Reis Samson, Mrs. Seeley Wilcox, Mrs. Russell Parker, Mrs. John W. Sargent, Mrs. Robert T. Raney, Mrs. Thomas Slack, Mrs. Edward D. Williams, Mrs. Charles H. Griffin and Dr. Corbett talked Mrs. Elizabeth D. Leonard sang.

The New York Browning Society held its annual meeting last Wednesday at 11 a. m., at the Waldorf-Astoria, when the reports of the last year were given by officers and chairman. Following the reports, the biennial election resulted as follows: President, Miss Florence Wier Gibson; vice-presidents, Mrs. John A. Leferts, Mrs. William A. Vogt and Mrs. John L. Childs; record-

ing secretary, Mrs. Bern Budd Gallaudet; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Thomas J. Vivian; treasurer, Dr. Lillian C. Randall; recorder, Mrs. John Holly Clark. After a buffet luncheon the president called order for the annual meeting. A letter from the founder and honorary president, Miss Julia Pauline Leavens, was read. Mrs. John Holly Clark was chairman of the day, and presented the programme.

The Hungry Club, Miss Sheridan, president, held its 437th dinner at the Hotel Majestic on Saturday evening. Music and dancing followed. The programme included Anthony Euwer, Miss Anna Flaris, Graham McNamee, Armand and Revere and others. Among the members present were Senator Chauncey M. Depew, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Maxim, Miss Julia Hume, James Seixas, Colonel William J. Lampton,

L. Kirby Parrish, B. B. Kirtland and Miss Anita Owen.

The regular business meeting of the Knickerbocker Chapter, D. A. R., Mrs. Simon Baruch, president, was held last Friday morning at the Hotel McAlpin. Plans were made for the reception to be given to the president general, Mrs. William Cumming Story, to-morrow (Monday) afternoon at 3 o'clock, also at the Hotel McAlpin. It will be the occasion for the installation of officers recently elected. There will be a programme of music, and many visiting regents will be guests.

The members of Chapter D, D. A. R., Mrs. William R. Stewart, president, will hold a social meeting on Friday, May 28, at the home of Mrs. F. D. L. Prentiss, Seagrove, Coney Island. Members will meet at Battery Pier for the 1:30 o'clock boat.

On May 30 the Daughters of the Union will take part in the memorial service to be held in the evening at the Church of the Puritans. Mrs. William R. Stewart, as first vice-president of the national society, will be among the speakers.

The Theatre Club, Mrs. David Mason, president, held its election at the Hotel Astor, on Tuesday afternoon, May 11. Mrs. John H. Parker, of 24 East Sixty-second Street, was elected president. Mrs. Eva Phipps, of 218 West 122d Street, entertained the executive board members and their friends with bridge at her home on Monday afternoon, May 10. Their next social day with installation of officers will be held on Tuesday, May 25, at 2:30 p. m. Subject will be "Comic Opera."

The annual meeting of the national

council of the Imperial Order Daughters of the British Empire in the United States of America was held in the ballroom of the Hotel St. George, in Brooklyn, on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 18. A feature of the convention was the formal opening, on May 19, of the new Victoria Home for Aged British Men and Women, for which the order has worked for six years, at West New Brighton, Staten Island. A garden party, donation party and social meeting was given in conjunction with this on Wednesday, May 19, from 1 to 6 p. m.

The Ladies' Assistance League of the Julia Seton Association tendered to Dr. Julia Seton a reception at the Country Life Permanent Exposition, concert hall, Grand Central Station, last night.

A reception was given to the Washington Heights Chapter, D. A. R., at the home of Mrs. William F. Johnson, at Pelhamwood, N. Y. The hostesses—Mrs. William F. Johnson and Mrs. Robert MacGregor—were assisted in receiving by Mrs. Samuel J. Kravitz, president of the afternoon music was rendered by Mrs. Jennie Jackson Hill, vocal soloist, and Mme. Aedilia MacRea Telamo, piano soloist.

The Chicago Women's Club held a meeting at the Hotel Majestic Wednesday afternoon to discuss the business affairs of the club.

The Woman's Press Club of New York City, Mrs. Hargot Holt Dey, president, will hold its next social meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria, Saturday afternoon, May 23, at 2 o'clock. The programme is in charge of Miss Amy Wren, chairman of the committee on education for citizenship. Miss Wren, Judge Robert H. Boy, of Kings County, Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton and Kate Upson Clark will deliver addresses. The music will be in charge of Miss Sarah B. Huff. There will be a tenor solo by Pedro Gutierrez, a violin solo by Hejre Kati and a soprano solo by Antoinette Reisenauer. A reception will follow the programme.

The final meeting of the season of the New York Theatre Club, Inc., Mrs. Belle de Rivera, president, was an "at home," with the installation of the newly elected officers. The programme was in charge of Mrs. Charles K. Mills, the club being entertained with violin solos by Arthur Walsh, soprano solos by Mrs. William G. Hammond, negro character readings by Lois Fox and tenor solos by Pedro Gutierrez. After the installation of officers a collation was served, and the rooms were cleared for dancing.

Mrs. Mary Spoor Latoy, recently elected chairman of membership of the Iowa New Yorkers, entertained the club at her home, 587 Riverside Drive, on Friday afternoon, May 14. Mrs. Jay's H. Clarkson, president, presided. It was the last business meeting of the season, and plans were formulated for the entertainments of the club during the season of 1915-16. Reports from the delegates of the Federation of Women's Clubs were read.

LATE SEASON AT HOT SPRINGS, VA.

Hot Springs, Va., May 22.—Scores of people well known in society have been arriving here, making an entirely new record for this time of year, which is the usual closing of the spring season. Their presence is attributed to the stopping of European travel. There are other indications, too, that the resort will have a lively two months before it fills up in August for the fall. Many of the new arrivals surprised to find that the altitude keeps

it cool here, the summer temperature seldom, if ever, going above 85 degrees.

Theodore Shonts's little grandson, the Duc de Chaulnes, has been having a great time here this week. The youngster, who has not been in Hot Springs for four seasons, when he was apparently taking life most seriously, came a few days ago, with his mother, the duchess; his aunt, Miss Marguerite Shonts, and the Duchess of Manchester. This trio, with Miss Isabella May, was a female stringency, from the body of which, on opening, emerged five youngsters, alive and frisky. These specimens were brought here intact and prepared for exhibition.

Each of the three species of rays secured in vivacious, that is, living, their young alive. While this fact was known as to the stingray and mobulid, it had heretofore been merely a deduction as to the manta. The collection of embryos of the manta secured by the National Museum, who worked out tentatively the breeding habits of the Manta birostris, as opposed to those of such species as produce their young from eggs, like most fishes.

The manta has been termed the bat of the deep, as it seems to fly through water, rather than swim. It is enabled to do so by its triangular shape. It is the largest of the ray family, having by evolutionary process extended its side fins to the form which may be termed near-wings—batlike wings.

mouth is forward, as in true fishes, but unlike that of other rays, all species of which have the mouth under the chin, as in the common skate. Its name, manta, is Spanish, given it by terrified fishermen, who alleged that it would hover over the dead bodies of seamen like a blanket.

Unlike all other fishes, manta has head fins, or arms, called carapaces, located on the end of the head, with which it brushes food into its huge mouth. The mouth in shape is like an oblong box, thirty-two inches across in the specimen brought here, but up to five feet across in larger ones. Into this cavernous opening manta brushes whole schools of its favorite food, small crustaceans, marine conchifers and, at times, small fishes or minnows. Although carnivorous, it apparently consumes its feeding to large quantities of small objects, rather than small quantities of large objects. This may be due to the fact that it has no upper teeth, although it may have rudimentary ones, like the whale. The entire lower jaw is crowded with a hundred rows of lower teeth. At the bottom of the mouth are the strainers, analogous to the gill rakers of the sharks, or pharyngeal apertures

whom he has just joined here. Mrs. Dodge having come down ten days ahead of him; Colonel and Mrs. Craig S. Wadsworth, Dr. and Mrs. Alexander W. Biddle, Miss Christine Biddle, Mrs. Harry S. Harkness, Howard Hoyt, J. B. Laughty, Mrs. Franklin Stetson, Charles T. Dillingham, Mr. and Mrs. Henri P. Wertheim von Heukelom, daughter and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Seligman, who have just stayed; H. E. Havemeyer and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Cunneen.

New York arrivals this week included Howard G. Hoyt, J. B. Laughty, Henry D. Sloane, Charles T. Dillingham, Mrs. Harry S. Harkness, Benedict Grunin, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fisher, William A. Hamann, George W. Swain, R. J. Darnall, Miss Pauline Darnall, C. S. Wadsworth, M. O. L. Cauchois, H. W. McConnell and George W. Baker.

A RECITAL.

An event of real interest was the piano recital given by the students of George Jay Taylor at the Waldorf-Astoria on Saturday afternoon, May 15. A well arranged programme, made up of compositions by Chopin, Mendelssohn, Schubert, Liszt, Grieg, Heller,

Scriabin, Rachmaninoff, De Bussey and MacDowell, was rendered by the pupils. The following participated: Miss Eva Ray Taylor, Cecil Louise Chapman, Marjorie Hanan, Helen Winslow, Beatrice Crowell, Dorothy Anderson, Winifred Farmer, Mildred McCree, Dorothy Hoxie, Helen Wilson, Dorothy Crane, Virginia Lee Smith, Beatrice Laws Brown, Beatrice Weisenburger, Master John Howard Gardner, Malcolm Steer, Ernest Carranza and John Raymond O'Neill. The assisting artists were: Louise Bliss Fox, soprano; Helen Snedecor, mandolinist, and J. Bertram, accompanist.

FELICITOUSLY PHRASED.

By way of enlarging the children's vocabulary, our village school teacher is in the habit of giving them a certain word and asking them to form a sentence in which that word occurs. The other day she gave the class the word "withstanding." There was a pause, and then a bright-faced youngster held up his hand.

"Well, what is your sentence, Tommy?" asked the teacher.

"Father wore his trousers out, but not with standing," Titt-Bits.

HARPOONING GIANT MANTA, TIGER OF DEEP

By W. H. BALLOU.

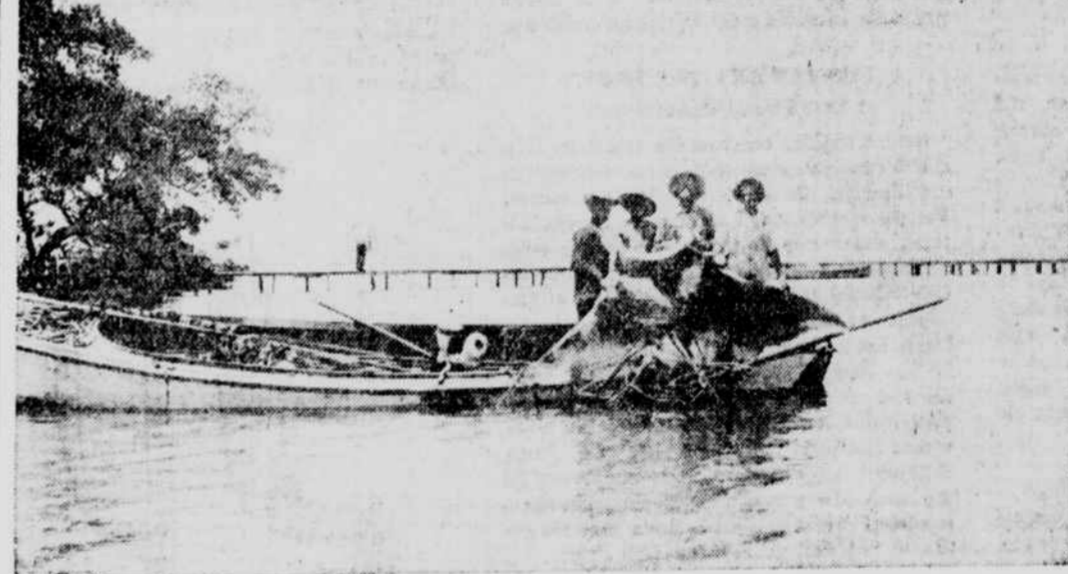
AN EXPEDITION under Dr. Louis Huxslof, curator of fishes of the American Museum, returned some time ago from Florida waters, bringing a collection of giant ray fishes, after exciting adventures with the harpoon. Any one who has seen an ordinary skate in our local surf can form an immediate idea of the whole ray family, certain members of which exceed a ton in weight.

It had for some time been considered essential to the interests of the Museum that there should be placed on exhibition specimens of the largest members of the ray family. In consequence, the expedition was organized, with camp at Captiva Island, south of Tampa, Fla. Dr. Huxslof was accompanied by J. Bell, Museum taxidermist. The matter of capture was placed in the hands of Russell J. Coles, of Danville, Va., an expert harpooner of sea monsters and the inventor of a new drug, or drag, by which they are immediately brought to a standstill and prevented from towing boats about for hours at a time. The crew was composed of five sailors, in charge of Captain Charles W. Willis, familiar with the ins and outs of the waters of the east coast.

The new drug, which played the important part in quick capture, and which must be of great use to scientists hereafter, is merely a rather large, heavy square of plank joined together, with a hole in the center. Through the hole a pole is thrust, to which a tow rope is fastened. When dropped overboard, the drug offers sufficient resistance to stop a whale, or perhaps even a tugboat. Half of the square sinks into the water, presenting a vertical wall, which increases its resistance in proportion as water is piled up against it. Mr. Coles thus describes the effect:

"We ran down the coast about three miles, looking for a promising devilfish local name for the manta. Soon we saw what resembled the shadow of a cloud moving across the water a quarter of a mile distant. I recognized it at once as a big devilfish, and headed the boat to cut it off from deep water. "Everything was in readiness. With the harpoon raised I stood at the bow of the boat. As the big fellow dashed across, about eight feet under water, I drove the whale harpoon into it, clearing the sock. At the same instant Captain Willis fastened with a second harpoon. My harpoon had a mile of rope attached, but the captain's rope was short and attached to the drug, which he immediately cast overboard when he saw his harpoon was fast. The monster started away at a swift gallop, but must have been an astonished fish when the drug brought him up sharply within a hundred feet—as soon, in fact, as his speed led a mountain of water against it. Flabbergasted, he turned and made directly for the boat."

"I then took up a heavy lance, especially designed by me, to add finishing touches to such fish life as insists on battle. If he struck us we were done; if I hit first it was his funeral. At eight feet distance I drove the lance through his spine at the base of the neck, killing him instantly. The huge animal lay on its back, and the water rushed out of it and dyed the water for a hundred yards around it. It was the first experiment on a great fish with my inventions—the drug and spade



THE GIANT MANTA COMING ABOARD.

lance. Astonished for an instant at the completeness of the feat, I let out a fair imitation of a first class yell, and joined in lustily. Any one who has ever fought a whale, swordfish, devilfish, shark or other huge sea monster knows with what relief all on a small boat view the capture of an attacking animal, maddened by his wounds."

The above is the first instance on record of such instant dispatch of a sea monster. The record manta, 17½ feet wide and weighing 3,000 pounds, taken at Port Antonio, Tex., by a fleet in command of Captain P. J. A. Cleary, U. S. A., towed sixteen boats for three and one-half hours. Commodore W. L. Mellen, of Pittsburgh, was towed a whole afternoon by a manta extending five feet wide. Edward Vom Hofe, of New York, thought himself lucky in that he was able finally to pass a rope ashore and secure a 1,000-pound manta, hauling him in with a capstan. Captain Charles H. Thompson, of Miami, Fla., spent five days with a tug harpooning a 3,000-pound whale shark, fighting the monster, which was still alive when brought to the wharf. Thus we may estimate the remarkable value of the new drug and whale, or spade, lance.

The manta secured by the expedition was eleven feet wide. The next adventure was with a smaller member of the ray family, a mobulid, Mobula Olfersii, measuring 7 feet 10 inches across. He was dispatched in a similar manner. Dr. Huxslof took charge of the manta's anatomy, first photographing them and making measurements and field notes. It was then Mr. Bell's turn. The taxidermist made four cuts across the manta, dividing it into five sections. He then made plaster casts of each section, which were put together later in the museum and colored with all the markings of life. The head, tail, intestines and skeleton were put in alcohol and brought home for study. Much to the delight of the museum people, Mr. Coles, after the expedition left, was able to get the embryo, or young, of the species, which were sent here. The mobulid ray was brought here intact and mounted complete. The plaster cast of the manta will be exhibited at the museum until another expedition secures one of the

largest size, which will be shipped here intact and mounted.

The last important capture of the expedition was a female stingray, from the body of which, on opening, emerged five youngsters, alive and frisky. These specimens were brought here intact and prepared for exhibition.

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of the bronchial chambers. These organs, possessed by other known species, resemble the leaflets of ferns, turned backward. By their aid manta can exist in water without swallowing any of it. Builders of submarines might well get pointers from it when taken aboard, and if not held taut by a line can use it to cut the line.

The carapaces, or head fins, of manta are the terror of seamen and owners of shore properties around the Gulf. Whatever the fins come in contact with manta seizes and attempts to destroy. Thus, when wandering along the shore, if one of them touches the leg of a spider wharf or post of a water fence, away goes the whole structure, or as much as sticks to the offending piece of wood. Together with the tere, the manta is compelling shore residents and wharf owners to install concrete posts and piles. There are instances on record where manta, coming in contact with chains of vessels at anchor, seized the offending object and towed away chain, anchor and vessel. Size of craft makes no difference with this monster. He tackles whatever obstructs his free passage. No human invention causes such swift flight through water as manta is capable of.

Manta is believed to give birth to but one child in a season, but whether there are more than one season annually is unknown. She leaps in the air time and again while being hauled, until the youngster is shaken

from her body, then carries him on her back into shallow waters. The offspring enters the world as a fully formed manta of considerable size. Until his birth he has been fed or suckled internally, but not in the same manner as other animals. He takes no milk or similar fluid through the mouth, but absorbs it through spiracles. All other fishes, not viviparous, require from two to five years to attain the adult stage, while this strange creature is ready for its world battle, complete, ready for a considerable time. We seem to have a fish here, with wings like a bird, arms nearly like man's and of a higher type of birth than man's superior because it is born an adult, while man requires years to develop to the adult stage.

Manta may be a visitor in New York waters during the hottest weather of the summer. Dr. Hugh M. Smith, Director of the Bureau of Fisheries, Washington, has been working in the Flashes of North Carolina, says:

"The huge ray, which inhabits the tropical waters of America, strays northward to New Jersey and has been observed a number of times on the North Carolina coast."

Turner remarks: "A characteristic pose is that of lying motionless, or at most with the disk (body) slightly undulating with respiration, in the sand, just under the water. Sometimes they have been found a yard or so above low water mark, in pits of their own making."

Elliott records: "They turn somersaults, a curious exhibition. You see the feelers (head arms) thrown out of water, then the white stomach, marked with five pills on each side; then the tail emerges. The revolution is repeated time and again. When below water his presence is detected by the boiling from below, as from a great cauldron. In leaping from the water they frequently project themselves to a considerable height and for some distance. If disturbed, they may disappear beneath the waves and reappear a mile distant, continuing their gambols."

BIENNIAL OF MUSIC CLUBS.

There is some additional information to that already printed in this journal concerning the things hoped for at the biennial meeting of the National Federation of Music Clubs to be held in Los Angeles during the fortnight from June 24 to July 3. There is to be a Congress for the Encouragement of American Music, at which George W. Chadwick is to conduct his "Symphonic Sketches." Arno Oldberg his second symphony in C minor, Mabel W. Daniels something called "Desolate City," Carl Busch his "Minnehaha's Vision," David Stanley Smith his overture, "King Hall," and Eric Delamater his overture, "Masquerade." A piano recital, sonata by Charles Wakenman Cadman is to be heard for the first time in public. On one Sunday sacred music by American composers will be sung in all the churches (so says the announcement), there are to be many concerts and recitals, some of them to be given by "the twelve winners of the federation contest for young American-trained musicians," and the pupils of the Los Angeles public schools are to show what they can do in the way of singing, orchestral playing and composing. The prize opera, "Fairyland," by Brian Hooker and Professor H. W. Parker, is to have its first performance on July 1. The principal parts are to be taken by Marcella Craft, Albert Hinchaw and Ralph Errelle. The chorus will number one hundred and the orchestra seventy.

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